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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/874,676	06/05/2001	Steven M. Johnson	HRA/12428	7977

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EXAMINER

PARSONS, CHARLES E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2613

DATE MAILED: 09/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/874,676

Applicant(s)

JOHNSON ET AL.

Examiner

Charles E Parsons

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 8, 9 and 12-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6, 7, 10 and 11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-5, 8,9,12-14, 16, 19, 20, 21 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murphy.

Claim 1, 12, 13, 19. A communications system, comprising;

means for transmitting information from said vehicles via a wireless network, said transmitted information including video information from said web cameras; (See Murphy column 8 lines 1-20)

a server for receiving the video information and displaying a plurality of images. (See Murphy column 8 lines 15-16.)

a plurality of vehicles;

a plurality of web cameras, each of said cameras being disposed in one of said vehicles and being active when the vehicle is running;

(While Murphy does not explicitly state that his invention is used in a plurality of vehicles, one of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that more than one vehicle could have cameras disposed in them. Furthermore the cameras are active at any time the user chooses for them to be active See column 12 lines 24-27. Therefore at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to place a webcam in a plurality of vehicles to make the invention as claimed. One would have been motivated to do so by a desire to market the product to more than one customer.)

Claim 2, 14: The communications system according to claim 1, further comprising means for determining said vehicles locations and wherein said transmitted information includes information of said vehicles' locations. (See Murphy column 5 lines 31-44 as well as column 8 lines 11-14)

Claim 3: The communications system according to claim 2, wherein said sender is operable to display the vehicles' locations. (See Murphy column 8 lines 14-18 display of the information is inherent.)

Claim 4,8: The communications system according to claim 1, wherein said transmitted information includes an identifier for each of said web cams. (At the time the invention was made it was well known to those of ordinary skill in the art that in order to receive information or images from a particular source the source must have an identifier associated with it. The identifier in this case is the IP address of the camera associated with each vehicle since the information can be transmitted over the internet. See Murphy column 8 lines 5-6 as well as column 11 lines 15-17.)

Claim 5 9, 16: The communications system according to claim 4, wherein said server is operable to display said identifier such that specific web cams may be selected by a user. (See Murphy column 12 lines 23-28. Since Murphy's system is capable of on demand broadcast of images and other information, the identifier of the particular vehicle camera would have to be displayed so that the user knows he is looking at images from the proper vehicle.)

20. The communications system according to claim 19, wherein at least some of said web cams are secured to a vehicle. (See Murphy column 4 lines 18-25)

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21. The communications system according to claim 20, wherein the transmitted information is selected from the group consisting of video, audio, temperature, elevation, speed, direction, and location information. (At the time the invention was made it was well known in the art that any information deemed useful or necessary could be transmitted as a matter of design preference.) Official notice served
3. Claim 15, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murphy as applied to claim 14 above, and further in view of Hendricks.

Claim 15 17, 18, 22, 23, 24. The method according to claim 14, comprising the further steps of: inputting user-selected parameters for desired web camera displays', searching said further information to determine which of said web cams satisfy said user-selected parameters; and, permitting display of video information from said web cams satisfying said user-selected Parameters. (While Murphy does not teach this limitation Hendricks does. Hendricks discloses a web based network of video cameras that are disposed in remote areas See figure 8B. The user is capable of searching for predetermined parameters such as cameras in a particular location. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to search for any pertinent information to view the activity in a particular location fitting the parameters. One would have been motivated to do so by the knowledge gleaned from column 12 lines 1-17 of Murphy that a priori look at images fitting a particular situation is desirable.)

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 6,7,10,11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The means for turning off the webcam when the vehicle is in a predetermined location

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designated by the owner was not found in a prior art search. The prior art of record activates the camera while detectors detect a particular condition or while it is being operated. In the current invention the owner of the vehicle determines the particular location for shutting the camera off.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles E Parsons whose telephone number is 703-305-3862. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH 7AM to 5 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Kelley can be reached on 703-305-4856. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CEP


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